

Performance Level Guidelines

Vocal Elements

	Vocal Quality	Intonation	Balance and Unity
1	The performance exhibits almost no vocal skill, with extremely poor vocal quality. (harsh, shrill, unsupported, etc.)	The performance exhibits no discernible melody or chords. This level of intonation is extremely rare. Perhaps a performance error like poor pitch-taking or nerves are the cause.	The performance exhibits a perceived lack of care for the balance of roles, and a lack of synchronization and connection between singers.
2	The performance exhibits a major lack of vocal skill. Vocal quality is frequently poor.	The performance exhibits many wrong notes and out of tune chords. Dissonance is the norm.	The performance exhibits very small amounts of unity and care for the balance of roles, though individual voices are still unstylistically present.
3	The performance exhibits rare moments of acceptable vocal quality which appear to be accidental or out of the performer's control.	The performance exhibits a recognizable melody and chords, however, there are still many melodic and tuning errors.	The performance exhibits some care and attention for the balance of roles, and there is some unity and synchronization, though it seems to be accidental.
4	The performance exhibits a vocal quality that is not poor but is still mostly unsatisfactory.	The performance exhibits frequent tuning and accuracy errors.	The performance exhibits a vocal plan and balance of roles that is somewhat perceivable, with large sections that are problems.
5	The performance exhibits vocal quality is satisfactory and not improper, but still sometimes lacks even basic vocal skills.	The performance exhibits tuning and accuracy that are as often incorrect as correct.	The performance exhibits a vocal plan and balance of roles that are clearly perceived, however there are still many errors within them.
6	The performance exhibits mostly good vocal quality, but there are still many vocal distractions. Vocal quality is better than satisfactory.	The performance is only occasionally out of tune with some very strong phrases and some with more errors.	The performance exhibits a clear vocal plan and the balance of roles is mostly well executed, however synchronization and unity issues still cause many distractions.

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7	The performance exhibits frequently good vocal quality, but still has frequent interruptions of resonance.	The performance exhibits almost all correct notes and tuning is quite good with some periods of distractions.	The performance exhibits a clear understanding of the balance of roles. The members of the ensemble seem unified and synchronized. However, there are still some distractions and errors.
8	The performance exhibits fantastic vocal quality with occasional technical distractions. The performance would feel only somewhat inconsistent.	The performance exhibits no incorrect notes and tuning is mostly consistent with a few distractions throughout the performance	The performance exhibits a clear understanding of balance of roles and strong ensemble unity. There are very few errors, however, the technique of it is still clearly perceived.
9	The performance exhibits artistry that seems to transcend technique and excellent vocal quality with extremely rare distractions.	The performance exhibits exceptional mastery of tuning skill, with all most all chords tuned instantly.	The performance exhibits near-perfect balance of roles and the ensemble is completely unified. This seems almost effortless, transcending technique.
10	The performance would be a significant artistic experience for any listener. Vocal quality is exceptional and technique is completely imperceptible.	The performance exhibits instant and impeccable tuning and balance of all chords, and very musically and stylistically tuned melody.	The performance exhibits a perceived perfection fo balance of roles and of ensemble unity. Technique is imperceptible and the performance feels completely natural and effortless.



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